

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 139213  
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P 152355Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY  
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL PRIORITY  
NASA/JOHNSON SPACE CENTER HOUSTON TEXAS

UNCLAS STATE 139213

ATTN TN6/DR PHINNEY

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR FIELD TRIP RELATED TO  
NASA SPONSORED RESEARCH

1. SUMMARY: NASA/LYNDON B. JOHNSON SPACE CENTER (JSC)  
PERSONNEL PLAN SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY  
RESEARCH PROGRAM INVOLVING FIELD WORK AND SAMPLING OF  
LARGE ANCIENT METEORITE CRATER AT WEST CLEARWATER LAKE,  
PQ, CANADA. METEORITE IMPACT CRATERING HAS BEEN FUNDA-  
MENTAL PROCESS IN ORIGIN OF MOON AND IN EVOLUTION OF ITS  
SURFACE. STUDIES OF METEORITE IMPACT CRATERS ARE CRUCIAL  
TO UNDERSTANDING THE STRUCTURE OF MOON AND NATURE OF MANY  
RETURNED LUNAR SAMPLES. TERRESTRIAL IMPACT CRATERS, SUCH  
AS MANICOUAGAN AND CLEARWATER LAKES IN CANADA, PROVIDE  
WELL-PRESERVED AND ACCESSIBLE ANALOGUES OF LARGE LUNAR  
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PAGE 02 STATE 139213

CRATERS. MUCH OF OUR INFORMATION ABOUT MECHANICS OF  
METEORITE IMPACT AND THE NATURE OF ROCKS PRODUCED IN  
SUCH EVENTS HAS COME FROM THESE TWO CRATERS. THE PROPOSED  
RESEARCH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THIS  
TERRESTRIAL STRUCTURE AND WILL ALSO PROVIDE DATA THAT  
WILL HELP UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT ORIGIN AND EARLY HISTORY  
OF MOON AND PLANETS.

2. DR. WILLIAM C. PHINNEY, CHIEF, GEOLOGY BRANCH, JSC AND DR. CHARLES SIMONDS, LUNAR SCIENCE INSTITUTE, WISH TO CONDUCT ONE MONTH OF FIELD WORK AT WEST CLEARWATER LAKE CRATER. OBJECT OF FIELD WORK WILL BE TO OBTAIN A SET OF SAMPLES FOR DETAILED PETROGRAPHIC STUDY AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S. PERSONNEL TO BECOME KNOWLEDGEABLE WITH DETAILED FIELD RELATIONS OF STRUCTURE. THEY PLAN TO ARRIVE ON OR ABOUT JULY 1. SPECIFIC AREAS TO BE VISITED ARE MONTREAL, GREAT WHALE RIVER, QUEBEC AND WEST CLEARWATER LAKE.

3. EQUIPMENT TO BE IMPORTED: BRUNTON COMPASS.

4. ITEMS EXPECTED TO BE EXPORTED: BRUNTON COMPASS AND ROCK SAMPLES OF CRATER MATERIALS.

5. NAME AND AFFILIATION OF PERSONNEL TO BE CONTACTED:

MICHAEL R. DENCE  
GRAVITY DIVISION, EARTH PHYSICS BRANCH  
CANADIAN MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES

FYI: THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE CAMPING GEAR. LUNAR SCIENCE INSTITUTE WILL FURNISH AIR CHARTER TRANSPORTATION FOR GEAR AND PASSENGER BETWEEN WEST CLEARWATER LAKE AND GREAT WHALE RIVER. BOTH THE CANADIAN TEAM AND U.S. TEAM WILL PARTICIPATE IN FIELD WORK AND LABORATORY STUDY OF SAMPLES.  
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PAGE 03 STATE 139213

END FYI.

6. RESULTS OF ANALYSIS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE CANADIANS AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN OPEN SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

7. EMBASSY ACTION: PLEASE OBTAIN GOC APPROVAL FOR FIELD WORK AND SAMPLING OF METEORITE CRATER AT WEST CLEARWATER LAKE AS OUTLINED ABOVE. NASA REGRETS SHORT LEAD TIME. PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT CLEARANCE FOR THIS RESEARCH STUDY MAY NOT BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO JULY 1. THEY ARE PREPARED TO TRAVEL AS SOON AS EMBASSY'S RESPONSE IS RECEIVED. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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